

CLAIMS

1. A method for generating a printer model, the printer model comprising:
 - a plurality of colorant points, each colorant point having colorant values in colorant space; and
 - for each colorant point a corresponding colour point, said colour point having colour values in colour space;
 the method comprising the steps of:
 - obtaining a set of initial colorant points and corresponding colour points;
 - reducing said set of initial colorant points by removing at least one selected colorant point, for which the corresponding selected colour point is within a specified colour tolerance predictable by a predicted colour point obtained from colour points corresponding to colorant points neighbouring said selected colorant point.
2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - determining a CIELAB ΔE colour distance between said selected colour point and said predicted colour point;
 - removing said selected colorant point if said determined CIELAB ΔE colour distance is smaller than said specified colour tolerance.
3. The method according to claim 2 wherein said specified colour tolerance is at most ten units of CIELAB ΔE colour distance, more preferably at most five units, most preferably at most two units.
4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - defining a colorant domain in colorant space;
 - dividing said colorant domain into a plurality of non-overlapping cells, wherein a union of said plurality of non-overlapping cells constitutes said colorant domain and wherein

said initial colorant points are located at corner points of said plurality of non-overlapping cells.

5. The method according to the preceding claim, further comprising the steps of:
 - selecting out of said plurality of non-overlapping cells a plurality of cells having as a selected corner point said selected colorant point;
 - predicting the colour values at said selected corner point by using colour values corresponding to corner points of said plurality of selected cells excluding said selected corner point.
6. The method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of enlarging the set of initial colorant points by adding a colorant point at one of said corner points of said plurality of non-overlapping cells.
7. The method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of enlarging the set of initial colorant points by adding a colorant point at one of said corner points of said plurality of non-overlapping cells.
8. A colour target for characterising a printing device, said colour target consisting of a plurality of colour patches located in colorant space on grid lines forming a regular grid, said grid lines having:
 - first intersection points corresponding to said colour patches and located at first colorant points in colorant space; and
 - second intersection points without corresponding colour patches and located at second colorant points in colorant space;wherein each colour patch has first measured colour values defining a first measured colour point in colour space corresponding to said first colorant point in colorant space; wherein a colour distance is defined in said colour space;

wherein for each colorant point, selected out of said first and second colorant points, a corresponding predicted colour point is determined by using said first measured colour points corresponding to first colorant points neighbouring said selected colorant point on the regular grid so that

- for each colour patch, the colour distance between said corresponding predicted colour point and said first measured colour point is larger than a specified colour tolerance; and
- for each selected second colorant point, the colour distance between said corresponding predicted colour point and a second measured colour point is within said specified colour tolerance; wherein said second measured colour point is defined by second colour values, measured on a patch printed by the printing device when addressed by colorant values of said selected second colorant point.

9. The colour target according to claim 8 wherein said colour distance is CIELAB ΔE colour distance.
10. The colour target according to claim 9 wherein said specified colour tolerance equals five units of CIELAB ΔE colour distance.
11. The colour target according to claim 9 wherein said specified colour tolerance equals two units of CIELAB ΔE colour distance.